

## Message Text

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21

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:TSWILKINSON:PAW

APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON, JR.

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S/S- MR. REDDY

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R 190023Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231862

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: USTSJC, TS, PFOR

SUBJECT: US-TUNISIAN JOINT COMMISSION

REF: A. STATE 220464 B. TUNIS 6235 C. TUNIS 6201

D. TUNIS 6415

1. SECRETARY HAS AGREED TO SCENARIO FOR 1976 JOINT COMMISSION AS OUTLINED REF A PARA 1 AND PREVIOUS CABLES. SPECIFICALLY, SECRETARY HAS AUTHORIZED US TO PROPOSE OCTOBER 20 TO TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER AS DATE FOR PLENARY ON THIRD AND FINAL DAY OF MEETING, AND TO INDICATE THAT HE IS PREPARED TO CO-CHAIR THIS PLENARY. SECRETARY HAS ALSO AGREED TO OFFER A LUNCHEON FOR CHATTY AND APPROXIMATELY 30 GUESTS ON SAME DATE.

2. WE HAVE ADVISED TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR HEDDA INFORMALLY OF THESE DECISIONS, BUT YOU SHOULD INFORM CHATTY DIRECTLY  
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AND TELL HIM THAT SECRETARY'S CROWDED SCHEDULE EARLIER IN

MONTH UNFORTUNATELY PRECLUDED MEETING AT TIME THAT CHATTY PREFERRED (REF B). YOU SHOULD ALSO INFORM CHATTY THAT UNDER SECRETARY ROGERS PLANS TO BE AVAILABLE TO CO-CHAIR OPENING PLENARY ON OCTOBER 18 WITH EITHER CHATTY OR IF HE PREFERS A SENIOR DEPUTY.

3. WITH REGARD TO EMBASSY'S INQUIRY ABOUT US DELEGATION (REF C), YOU MAY INFORM GOT THAT ACTING DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE ROBERT G. SHAW WILL SUCCEED HOSTLER AS US CO-CHAIRMAN OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT SUBCOMMISSION, AND THAT ASSISTANT AID ADMINISTRATOR ROBERT H. NOOTER WILL BE US CO-CHAIRMAN OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION SUBCOMMISSION. WE WOULD EXPECT SUBCOMMISSION MEETINGS TO BEGIN IN AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 18 AND CONTINUE AS LONG AS NECESSARY ON OCTOBER 19. US SIDE WILL INCLUDE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES OF TREASURY, EXIM, OPIC, AND NSF AS WELL AS STATE, AID AND COMMERCE. EMBASSY SHOULD REPORT COMPOSITION OF TUNISIAN DELEGATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, EVEN IF INCOMPLETE.

4. REQUEST EMBASSY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR BACKGROUND PAPERS, IN PARTICULAR INPUTS TO PAPERS BEING PREPARED IN WASHINGTON, ON EXPEDITED BASIS. WE HOPE TO HAVE BRIEFING BOOKS READY FOR USG PRINCIPALS BY END OF FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER. ROBINSON

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